



NEWS RELEASE

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Transient Charged with Fatally Stabbing AAA Driver

A 39-year-old man accused of killing a AAA driver as he was helping a customer was arraigned today, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Tobias Ruben Cabrera (dob 8/24/75) pleaded not guilty to one count of murder in case VA139297. The charging document includes a special allegation that the defendant personally used a deadly and dangerous weapon, a knife, during the commission of the crime.

Additionally, the felony complaint alleges that Cabrera was previously convicted of corporal injury with great bodily injury to a spouse/cohabitant/child's parent in 2001 and possession for sale of a controlled substance in 2011.

Prosecutors said on June 2, victim Raymond Zabala, a AAA driver, drove to a Pico Rivera neighborhood to service a customer's car.

While working on the car, Cabrera, a transient, reportedly walked up to Zabala and asked what was going on before attacking and stabbing the victim with a knife, prosecutors added. Following the assault, Cabrera allegedly got on a bike and fled the area, prosecutors said.

Zabala went to a neighboring home to seek help, but ultimately succumbed to his injuries at the scene, prosecutors said.

Several days after the incident, Cabrera was located by law enforcement and subsequently charged in connection with the attack.

Cabrera is scheduled to return to court on Aug. 4 for a prehearing conference at the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Norwalk Branch in Department J.

If convicted as charged, the defendant faces a possible maximum sentence 37 years to life in state prison.

The case is being investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.